vistas.

## JOHN JORDAN.

John Jordan, the ancestor of the relationship of that name in Lower Pocahontas, was a very worthy native of Ireland. By occupation he was a tailor, and when he once met a fellow member of the craft after a prolonged separation his friend was very demonstrative in the pleasure the meeting afforded him. In his joyful exhilaration, as a special manifestation of his delight, he struck his friend Jordan on the back of his hand with a side blow of his own. This friendly lick was so powerful as to inflict a bruise so serious in its effects as to necessitate amputation of the arm just below the elbow. Nevertheless he learned to use a hoe or an axe to a good purpose in after life.

Mr Jordan came to this region as a traveling merchant, dealing in Irish linens and other portable merchandise. He was a "hard money" man in his financial preferences, and converted all paper money he received into silver and gold. Miss Miriam McNeel, daughter of John McNeel, the Levels pioneer, found out in some way that the young merchant had about a half bushel of coin, and it seemed to occur to her mind that if a person disabled as he was could make that much money, he could certainly take good care of her. To the surprise of her friends that a nice sensible girl as she was should fancy a cripple, she did not discourage the attentions of the hustling young Irishman, and they were happily married.

At that period of our local history a young man's recommendation was his ability to clear land, split rails, and grub, but to marry a cripple in store clothes was not to be thought of.

After their marriage Mr Jordan continued to prosper in making a living, and purchased some servants to wait on the girl that had made such a surprising venture as to marry him. He settled on the Millstone Run, between Hillsboro and Locust, opening up a property now in possession of Isaac McNeel, whose wife Miriam Nannie Beard is a grand-daughter of the pioneer merchant. There were five sons and three daughters: John, Jonathan, Isaac, Abram, Franklin, Jane, Nancy, and Martha.

John Jordan, Junior, married Martha Burnsides on the Greenbrier in view of the homestead, and settled near Hillsboro, where they spent the remainder of their lives. Their children were Christopher, Jonathan, Mary, Miriam, Nancy, and Jemima. Christopher married Elizabeth Wallace, daughter of Benjamin Wallace of Bath County, but long a resident of Pocahontas. Jonathan married Lucinda, daughter of James Sharp, on Beaver Creek. He was a Confederate soldier, and died at home while on a furlough from the army. Mary became Mrs Jacob McNeel, and lived on the McNeel homestead. John Henry and Samuel her sons. Miriam married Aaron Hill and settled on Hills Creek. Nancy became Mrs George Hill and died a few years since at Falling Spring, Greenbrier County. Jemima was married to Captain Samuel Gilmore, and lives in Highland County.

Jonathan Jordan, son of the pioneer, first married Elizabeth Callison, daughter of Anthony Callison at Locust. Her twin sons John and Anthony died young. Jonathan's second wife was Rebecca Edmiston. They settled on Dry Run, the place now in possession of Sherman Clark. The children of the second marriage were Elizabeth, Rebecca, Miriam, William and James.

Isaac Jordan, another son of the pioneer, married Mary Callison, daughter of James Callison on Trump Run, and settled just west of Hillsboro at the spring now owned by J. K. Bright. He afterwards moved to Davis County, Missouri. Isaac Jordan's second marriage was with the widow of Captain William Renick, Lafayette County, Missouri. He became a prominent citizen in his adopted State, was commissioner of the revenue and justice of the peace. His daughter Elizabeth became Mrs Samuel Beard, son of Josiah Beard of Locust, and they resided in Missouri near Odessa. Mr Beard died recently.

Abram Jordan married Jane Edmiston, daughter of the late Andrew Edmiston, near Locust. She was a sister of the distinguished judge Mathew Edmiston of Weston. Abram lived a few years on the old Jordan homestead, and afterwards migrated to Saline County, Missouri. Nancy and Lydia were his daughters. Nancy became Mrs Faulkner, and Lydia was married to William Renick, from Greenbrier County. Mr Renick was an extensive dealer in live stock, and was partner in trade with Levi Gay during his sojourn in Missouri.

Franklin Jordan married Martha Edmiston, and

went to Missouri. After her decease he married Mrs Ballenger, from Ashland, Ky.

Jane Jordan, eldest daughter of the pioneer, was married to the late Major William Blair, and lived near Hillsboro. Her sons were Morgan, Claiborne, Doctor Franklin, Colbert, and John, who died during the war. Morgan Blair married Ann Gay, daughter of George Gay, and settled in Iowa. Claiborne Blair married Lavinia Bruffey and went west.

Mrs Jane Blair's daughters were Frankie Blair, who was married to the late Isaac Clutter, and lived on Briar Knob, head of Hills Creek. Miriam Blair was married to William Hill, and settled in Iowa. Elizabeth Blair became Mrs John G. Beard, and lives on the Blair homestead near Hillsboro. Martha Blair was first married to Peter Clark, and after his decease she became Mrs Abram Beard, and lived in Renick's Valley, where she died not long since.

Nancy Jordan, the second of pioneer Jordan's daughters, was first married to Isaac Callison and went west. Her son, James B. Callison, lives at Jamesport, Mo. Her daughter Miriam was married to William Walkup, from Greenbrier County, and lived in Missouri, where she died. Mrs Walkup's son is a Presbyterian minister. Mrs Nancy Callison's second marriage was with the late George Edmiston near Locust, lived awhile on the old Andrew Edmiston homestead, and finally went to Missouri.

Martha, the youngest of the Jordan sisters, was married to the late Joseph Beard of Hillsboro. For several years they lived on Spring Creek in Greenbrier,

and then resided in Hillsboro. Her son John Jordan Beard married Minerva Edmiston. Their daughter Mollie became Mrs C. F. Moore. Harry Beard, one of their sons, is a physician in Lewisburg, and J. Fred Beard lives at Huntersville.

Lieutenant J. J. Beard was a gallant Confederate officer. He was severely wounded and greatly disabled by wounds received in battle in the lower valley. He served for two terms as clerk of both the circuit and county courts of Pocahontas. His death occurred in 1898.

Margaret Jane Beard, her eldest daughter, was married to Captain William L. McNeel. Mrs George Callison, Mrs J. Thrasher, Misses Mary, Pauline, and Maggie McNeel are her daughters. Joseph McNeel and the late Henry McNeel are her sons.

Miriam Nancy, Mrs Martha Beard's youngest daughter, was married to Isaac McNeel, at Millpoint, where they now dwell. Their son Thomas Summers is Prosecuting Attorney for Pocahontas County, and Harvey Winters McNeel is a physician at Hillsboro. Lanty McNeel is at home, and Mary Gold their only daughter.

Mrs Martha Beard died quite recently, over eighty years of age. Some time before her death she was disabled by a fall that prevented her from walking for the remainder of her life.

Thus far we have been able to record something in memory of a very worthy and rather remarkable person. If the reader has derived any pleasure from this sketch his thanks are largely due James McCollam and

the late Mrs Nancy Callison, upon whose retentive memories the writer has drawn for most of the particulars here given.

John Jordan, the pioneer, was one of the original ruling elders of the Oak Grove Presbyterian church. His house was open to Methodist and Presbyterian ministers without any apparent discrimination, and for years was one of the main preaching places for Methodist ministers. He donated the site for the Methodist church near his residence. This church was destroyed by fire about sixty years ago. In its time this was the most comfortable building of the kind in Pocahontas in possession of that sect. In his death Mr Jordan was greatly mourned, for many felt they had been bereaved of a true and useful friend. He was buried near the ruins of the Millstone Run Church, and his grave seems to have been nicely cared for. A neatly-carved stone (the handiwork of the late John Bruffey) marks the place where a good man rests in hope. His life's duty is done, and with tears of genuine affection he was tenderly laid under the trees, planted by the unseen hand of the God he served.

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## JOHN BRADSHAW.

In his day and generation one of the most conspicuous citizens of our county was John Bradshaw, Esq., of Huntersville. His residence was on the site now occupied by the "Lightner House" belonging to Amos Barlow. John Bradshaw was a native of England. Bradshaw is a historic name in England—as readers of